

nct NEVADA
CONSERVATORY
THEATRE

BLACK BOX THEATRE (BBT)

AMERICAN
LA RONDE

by **Steven Dietz**
From *Reigen* by Arthur Schnitzler



OCTOBER 6-22. 2023

Kirsten Brandt
Executive Director (NCT)

Produced by the Department of Theatre



PRESENTS

AMERICAN LA RONDE

by Steven Dietz

from *REIGEN* by Arthur Schnitzler

Director

Michael Lugerling

Scenic Designer

Emily Whatley+

Costume Designer

JD Anderson+

Lighting Designer

Paige Borak+

Sound Designer

Darren Segura

Technical Direction

Brooke Oteri+

Production Stage Manager

Angelina Defillipis

Props Coordinator

Cameron Cox+

Intimacy Coordinator & Fight Director

Sean Boyd

+Member of the MFA Professional Training Program with the Nevada Conservatory Theatre

The run time of this performance is approximately 90 minutes, with no intermission.



American La Ronde is presented through an arrangement with Dramatists Play Service.

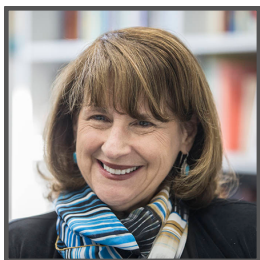
<https://www.dramatists.com/>

OCTOBER 6 - 22

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FROM THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Dear Nevada Conservatory Theatre Patron,

I am delighted to welcome you to the Nevada Conservatory Theatre at UNLV. We are proud to present a wide range of exceptional performances, richly contributing to the culture of this region. Las Vegas is, without a doubt, one of the most important arts and entertainment centers in the world. How exciting it is to be part of such a dynamic community!

The College of Fine Arts at UNLV, one of the largest in the country, educates students in the visual and performing arts, in architecture and in a program called entertainment engineering and design (EED). The college supports the scholarship, teaching, research, and creative activities of its stellar faculty, and is proud to participate in many regional, national and international partnerships. The Nevada Conservatory Theatre, housed in the College of Fine Arts, is one of the region's most significant and vital cultural resources. NCT has been remarkably successful in delivering the highest quality arts experiences to its audiences.

If this is your first experience here, please come back often. If you are a subscriber or frequent guest thank you so much for sharing in our joy of the arts. Please stay in touch!

We are thrilled that you are part of our growing UNLV Nevada Conservatory Theatre family.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Uscher

Dean, UNLV College of Fine Arts



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the second show of Nevada Conservatory Theatre's 2023-2024 Season. We are thrilled to bring you a season full of self-discovery, hope, and relationships – with a dash of the ridiculous!

As you may know, I joined UNLV and NCT just a few short months ago. In that time I have marveled at our extraordinary faculty, graduate students, undergraduates, and guest artists. Together we are working to create a magnificent season that celebrates our humanity.

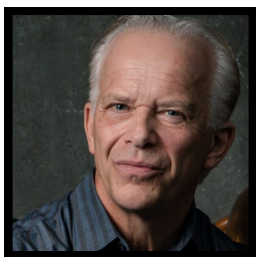
I am thrilled you are here for Michael Lugering's vibrant and moving production of Steven Dietz's adaptation of Arthur Schnitzler's *Reigen*, aptly titled *American La Ronde*. I have always been struck by the vulnerability and inherent messy truths of our relationships in Schnitzler's original play. Steven Dietz has brought that vulnerability and a contemporary edge to his adaptation. In late September, I had the privilege of interviewing Steven. The full interview can be found in our new *Know Before You Go* guide (you can access via the QR Code is in the program). He said, "I think an adaptation from 'another time' allows us to view the play through a more open and inviting lens. Schnitzler gives us basic archetypes (Student, Husband, Dancer, etc.) which offer us, as an audience, an open slate. People to project ourselves upon."

On behalf of our faculty, artistic company, and staff, thank you for coming and supporting local theatre. I hope you join us for *Cinderella* this November. *Cinderella* is in the style of the always hilarious and family friendly British Panto. This world premiere takes the traditional Panto and places it in the heart of Las Vegas. Fun and joyous, the Panto is a holiday tradition.

Enjoy!

Kirsten Brandt
Executive Director

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Steven Dietz's thirty-plus plays and adaptations have been seen at over one hundred regional theatres in the United States, as well as Off-Broadway. International productions have been seen in over twenty countries. His work has been translated into a dozen languages. In 2019, Dietz was once again named one of the 20 Most-Produced Playwrights in America by American

Theatre Magazine. Recent world premieres include *How a Boy Falls* (Northlight Theatre, Chicago); *Dracula: Mina's Quest* (ACT Theatre, Seattle); and two interlocking plays for adult and youth audiences, *The Great Beyond* and *The Ghost of Splinter Cove* (Actor's Theatre of Charlotte, Charlotte Children's Theatre). Dietz was awarded the American Theatre Critics Association's Steinberg New Play Citation for *Bloomsday*; the Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays Award for both *Fiction* (seen Off-Broadway at the Roundabout Theatre Company) and *Still Life with Iris*; the PEN USA Award in Drama for *Lonely Planet*; and the Edgar Award® from the Mystery Writers of America for *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*. Other plays seen regularly across the U.S. include *Becky's New Car*, *This Random World*, *Last of the Boys*, *Rancho Mirage*, *Yankee Tavern*, *Private Eyes*, *God's Country*, and *The Nina Variations*. Previously a professor of playwriting and directing at the University of Texas at Austin, Dietz now serves as a Dramatists Guild "Traveling Master" – teaching workshops in playwriting, story-making, and collaboration across the U.S. He and his wife, playwright Allison Gregory, divide their time between Austin and Seattle.

PLAY SYNOPSIS

A simple bracelet travels through the lives of ten bold and desperate lovers, giving us a sexy, literate, emotional, and highly theatrical glimpse of the intrigue and heartache left in its wake. *American La Ronde* is a provocative and fully contemporary re-imagining of Arthur Schnitzler's notorious play *Rondegen*, known as its French translation, *La Ronde*.



DRAMATURG'S NOTE

American La Ronde: The Pleasures of Adaptation

On the title page of his play, Steven Dietz makes no secret that his *American La Ronde* (2017) is an adaptation of *Reigen* (1900) – known in English as *La Ronde* – by Austrian Jewish writer and dramatist Arthur Schnitzler (1862-1931). Adaptation of existing works has been a pillar of theatre-making at least since ancient Greece. The approach has proved successful because adapting the same stories combines the familiarity of repetition with the novelty of variation while demonstrating the playwright's individual point of view and artistic prowess.

As French theorist Gérard Genette suggests, "one who really loves texts must wish from time to time to love (at least) two together" *Palimpsests: Literature in the Second Degree*, (1982). In fact, perceiving an adaptation as adaptation is part of the pleasure of engaging with this type of artistic production, one that can only be enjoyed by "knowing audiences" aware of the link between the earlier and later text (Linda Hutcheon, *A Theory of Adaptation*, 2006). For those unfamiliar with Schnitzler's work, it is therefore essential to underscore at least two important aspects of his play: its unconventional dramatic structure and its history of censorship due to a titillating subject matter that unmasked the private lives of a cross section of Viennese society.

In contrast with the typical climactic structure that highlights the changed situation between beginning and end, *Reigen* hinges on a circular structure that concludes just where it started, thus signaling stagnation and disillusion in regard to human relationships. In a series of ten scenes, each time one of two interlocutors continues to the next dialogue with a different partner until the circle is completed. With a single exception, the action progresses rather swiftly to sexual intercourse, indicated on the page by one or more lines of dashes towards the middle of each scene.

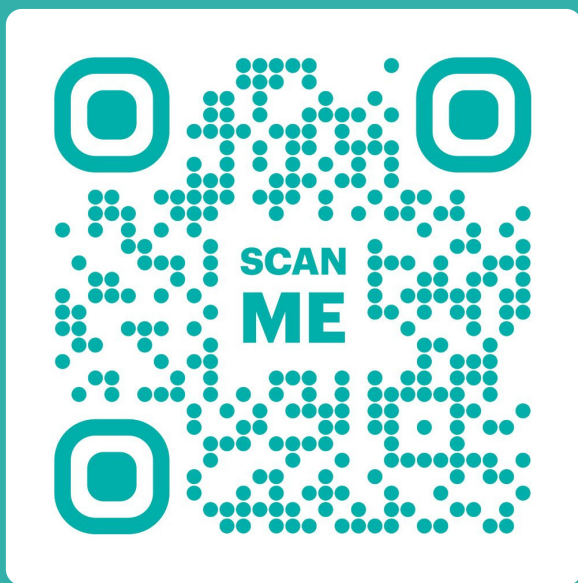
Hesitant about the literary value of his work, the author initially had it printed in just 200 copies at his own expense. However, following sanctions against a Munich student theatre that presented three scenes from the play, book sales were banned in Germany in 1904 and the official premiere in Berlin and Vienna had to wait until 1920 and 1921 respectively. Even so, due to right-wing antisemitic political demonstrations, the play's cast, director, and theatre administrators in Berlin were charged with creating a public nuisance and taking part in obscene acts, even if the staging had simply lowered the curtains and played waltz music during the incriminated scenes. Even if the artists were eventually exonerated, Schnitzler's embarrassment led him to wish the play would never again be performed. And yet, its shock value must have contributed to its continued appreciation.

In transferring the action to contemporary America, Dietz adopted the same circular structure but modernized both characters and situations, with the addition of a bracelet that constantly changes hands and becomes a common thread connecting all involved. Emphasizing the continuity of each scene and between them, this adaptation eliminates the need to censor sexual activities by instead staging the difficulties of "getting to the point" in today's more permissive yet complicated society. But intimacy is nevertheless sought after, especially when, for instance, the author insists: "This is a really good kiss. It is not a 'stage kiss.' It is not fake." And true intimacy is perhaps the most shocking today when our relationships are increasingly filtered and mediated.

Stebos



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CAST

The Maid.....	JoAnn Birt+
The Student.....	Autumn Morgan+
The Young Dancer/The Dancer.....	Nick Case+
The Young Man.....	Drew Callahan+
The Songwriter.....	Brooks Mellen
The Wife.....	Cynthia Nesbit+
The Famous Singer.....	Keaton Delmar Johns
The Soldier.....	Andrew Bullard+
The Husband.....	Andrew Trevino+
The Wealthy Man.....	Taylor Hanes
Maitre'd/Understudy.....	Dylan Omori McCombs+
Manager/Understudy.....	Jhabré Whright
Understudy.....	Kate Critchfield+
Understudy.....	Bryan Diaz Alavez

+Member of the MFA Professional Training Program with the Nevada Conservatory Theatre

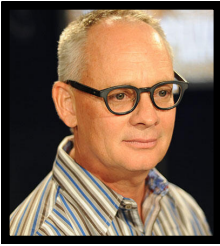


Our mission is to entertain, provoke, and inspire.
We believe our region has a cultural destiny.
This is our home.

Founded by the faculty of the Department of Theatre of UNLV in 2000, The Nevada Conservatory Theatre has grown to be among the most notable performing arts organizations in Las Vegas. NCT stands as a model for the intersection of research, pedagogy, and professional practice. National and international professional actors, designers, and directors work alongside advanced graduate and undergraduate students recruited from around the country.



ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



MICHAEL LUGER (Director) is a master teacher of voice, movement and acting. Mr. Luger has spent over 15 years researching the physical, psychological, behavioral and aesthetic aspects of human expression. The Luger Method marks a revolutionary departure from traditional methods of actor training. In this truly integrated technique the voice and body, thought and feeling, sound and movement, psyche and soma are

synthesized in the practical exploration of expression action. Mr. Luger's new book *THE EXPRESSIVE ACTOR: An Integrated Method of Voice, Movement & Actor Training* is published by Heinemann Drama Books. Mr. Luger has taught master classes in acting, voice, movement and classical text at theatre conferences and Professional Acting Training Programs throughout the United States, Korea and in the United Kingdom. Recent acting credits include *JOE*: performed in Las Vegas, Monaco, Scotland, Los Angeles, Liverpool, Japan and Quebec. Additionally, Mr. Luger is a passionate director noted for his innovative approach to the classics. He has served as a professional voice coach for the Utah Shakespearian Festival and the Nevada Conservatory Theatre

FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Each relationship carries its death right from the birth, just as people do."

-Arthur Schnitzler, Author of *REIGEN*

AMERICAN LA RONDE is an inventive reimagining of Arthur Schnitzler's 1897 play *REIGEN*. This adaptation like the original is a round of circular sexual encounters. The title also suggests a kind of circle dance, where partners are swapped. Suffice it say the play has suffered with over a century of controversy, condemnation and demands for censorship. In 2023, it seems little has changed. The play still remains somehow shocking despite several so-called sexual revolutions of the last century. I am not so much interested in the specific sexual situations that occur in this play, but rather the antagonistic forces that lie beneath and ignite them. The forces of male and female, and the space between. The tangential connections between age and youth. Permission and acceptance on one hand, and shame and rejection on the other. The ineffable conflict between the dominate and the submissive. The convoluted, co-mingling of truth and lies; of pleasure and pain; of confidence and insecurity; of love and loss. Our ephemeral secrets and fantasies hidden and revealed in our public and private personas. The greatest human achievement may be to reach a type of sexual self-actualization without abusing oneself or violating others. May our exploration here illuminate this journey. *Kyrie Eleison* on the road that we all travel.

-Michael Luger

ABOUT THE CAST



JOANN BIRT (The Maid), is so happy to be making her debut in Fabulous Las Vegas at the Nevada Conservatory Theatre. JoAnn is a first year graduate student in the MFA program at University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She received her undergraduate BFA degree in Acting from University of Illinois Chicago where she was born and raised. *And actually Chicago, not Chicago suburbs.* She has been a working actress with Lily's Talent since 2019 pursuing stage, T.V./film, and modeling. Some of her favorite castings included a role on NBC's *Chicago P.D./Chicago Fire*, as well as the Chicago premier of *When We Were Young And Unafraid* with AstonRep which earned her first Joseph Jefferson Award nomination. She also spent some time teaching acting and directing at Hawaii Preparatory Academy. She's thrilled and honored to be performing for everyone here! Thank you you to everyone involved. All the love.



AUTUMN S. MORGAN (The Student), originally from Vallejo, California is an acting graduate student in the Fine Arts program here at UNLV. As an undergraduate here, she has had the opportunity to work on the following shows: *Violet* as Lula Buffington and Landlady, *She Kills Monsters* as Vera/Evil Gabbie/The Beholder, and *Midsummer* as Robin Starveling and Cobweb.



NICK CASE (The Dancer/The Young Dancer), NCT debut! 1st year MFA from Toledo, OH. BFA: Musical Theatre, Penn State University. Selected credits: *TITANIC* (Harold Bride), *MAN OF LA MANCHA* (Barber) at Fulton Theatre; *GUYS & DOLLS* (Harry the Horse, u/s Nathan Detroit) at ACT of CT; *WAIT UNTIL DARK* (Roat), *PRIDE AND PREJUDICE* (Darcy), *PETER AND THE STARCATCHER* (Boy), *MY FAIR LADY* (Freddy) at Wagon Wheel Theatre; *HAMLET* at APEX Theatre Studio. Enjoy!

ABOUT THE CAST



DREW CALLAHAN (*The Young Man*), is beyond thrilled to be making his NCT debut in *American La Ronde*. Drew is a first year MFA Acting student, and couldn't be happier to be back on stage here in fabulous Las Vegas. Hailing from the beautiful beaches of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Drew has found a new home here in the desert. After spending time working full time as a Scenic Carpenter and Deck Chief, Drew is thrilled to be back on the other side of the curtain. Some favorite roles include Macbeth in *The Tragedy of Macbeth*, Ken in *RED*, and John Worthing in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Drew would like to thank every single person who made his transition into graduate school possible. I am forever grateful.



BROOKS MELLEN (*The Songwriter*), Hailing from Illinois, Brooks is ecstatic to be in his first NCT show with such a brilliantly skilled cast. He recently performed in Second Stage's *Young Frankenstein* as Frederick Frankenstein and in the Utah Shakespeare Festival's *Sound of Music* as Friedrich. He's grateful to play a character not named Fred and be on stage again after working as the video creator for NCT's *Happy Days*. Majoring in Stage and Screen Acting, Brooks is excited to see what his time at UNLV will present.



CYNTHIA NESBIT (*The Wife*), is a first year MFA student and hails from Cincinnati, OH. She is thrilled to be a part of her first production with NCT! Off Broadway credits include: *She Persisted: The Musical*, *Interstellar Cinderella*, *A Band of Angels*; 1st Nat'l Tour: *Paw Patrol: Live!*, *Twinkle Tames a Dragon*, *Trolls: The Experience*. Regional: *Intimate Apparel* (Mayme). Film: *The Mayor Jones*. Cynthia received a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre from Ball State University.



BRYAN DIAZ ALAVEZ (*Transitions*), was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. He is currently a Junior at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, to get his BFA in Theatre with a concentration in Stage and Screen Acting. He is very excited to make his debut with the Nevada Conservatory Theatre. This December he will be in the amazing and hilarious NCT production of *Cinderella: Under the Mistletoe*.

ABOUT THE CAST



KEATON DELMAR JOHNS (The Famous Singer), is a graduate from Southern Utah University with a BFA in Musical Theatre, and is a proud alumnus of Las Vegas Academy for the Arts. Previous credits include Robin Gibb in *Australian Bee Gees* (Excalibur Las Vegas), Gabe in *Next to Normal* (Southern Utah University), Hanschen in *Spring Awakening* (Majestic Repertory Theatre; 2019 Valley Award Winner for Best Supporting Actor), Riff in *West Side Story* (Signature Productions), Dr. Falke in *Die Fledermaus* (Southern Utah University), Malcolm in *Macbeth* (Bard at the Bar), Sheriff Joe Sutter in *The Spitfire Grill* (Las Vegas Little Theatre), and Bobby Strong in *Urinetown* (Southern Utah University). He is also a professional singing drag queen in Las Vegas known as Kitty Del Mar, and a singing gondolier at the Venetian Hotel. His debut album, *Cedar Sunsets*, will come out early next year. @keatonjohnsmusic



ANDREW BULLARD (The Soldier), is elated to be making his debut performance with the Nevada Theater! It has been such a joy working alongside such incredible people through this process. Thank you to everyone who has helped make this show what it is. Cheers and enjoy the show!



ANDREW TREVINO (The Husband), is a first year graduate student at UNLV pursuing his M.F.A. in Performance Acting. He is an Alumni of California State University Fresno (2021) i Theatre Arts- Acting emphasis. His recent acting credits include Fools Collab Chicana Legend (Jose's Papa, Man) UR Here Theatre's Fade (Abel) Lime Arts Productions *The Former Kings of Clutch City* (Avery), Fresno University Theatre's *The Agony of Ecstasy* (He), *To Thine Own Self Be True* (Mark Antony), *Darkside* (Witness), *As You Like It* (Adam), *Anon(ymous)* (Pascal), *Book Of Days* (Reverend Bobby Groves), *Just Like Us* (Ramiro, Cop, Cesar Mesquita), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Steve Hubbell), *Selma Originals Online* (Anger & Oscar) Stageworks Fresno's *La Cage Aux Folles* (Francis), and the Fresno State Theatre for Young Audiences. Andrew would like to thank his mother Melissa for being his biggest supporter. He hopes you enjoy the show.

ABOUT THE CAST



TAYLOR HANES (The Wealthy Man), is a veteran NCT guest artist having appeared in over 25 NCT productions including *The Cherry Orchard*, *As You Like It*, *The Seagull*, *The Foreigner*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Hamlet*, and *All My Sons*. He was most recently seen in Majestic Repertory Theatre's production of *Inherit The Wind* (Mathew Harrison Brady). Taylor is a recipient of the Vegas Valley Theatre Award's Best Actor for his portrayal of Mark Rothko in John Logan's play *RED*. Nationally, he toured Ross Howard's solo play *Arthur* and *Esther* in New York at The Cherry Lane Theatre and San Francisco at The Profile Theatre. Taylor is a proud alumnus of U.N.L.V. (M.A.Theatre), and he holds a M.F.A. in Acting from The University of Southern Mississippi.



DYLAN OMORI MCCOMBS (Father's Voice / Maitre'D / Understudy), is thrilled to be making his first on stage appearance at NCT! Originally from Oakland, CA, Dylan spent the last 4 years acting in Off-Off Broadway productions in New York City. Recent credits include *A Sketch of Pride with A Sketch of New York*, *Amen, Amen* with HoneyVic Productions, and *The Monologue Show* with Alpha NYC.



JHABRE WRIGHT (Manager/Understudy), is a Las Vegas Native, with a captivating personality that brings alluring prints to life, powerful storytelling on camera, and a superb style with bringing voiceover to your ears. She is ambidextrous and loves traveling!



KATE CRITCHFIELD (Understudy), is a first-year MFA student at UNLV, with an emphasis in performance. Other recent, local credits include Waverly in *Recent Tragic Events* (A Public Fit Theatre Company), Brooke/Vicki in *Noises Off!* (Poor Richard's Players), and Annie Sullivan in *The Miracle Worker* (Las Vegas Little Theatre). You may have also seen her having a "killer" time in the murder mystery dinner show *Marriage Can Be Murder* at The Orleans Hotel and Casino. Much love to Sean and Brendan for the endless love and support!

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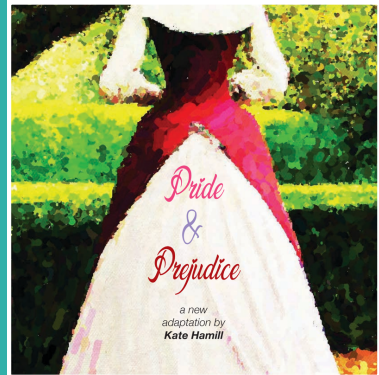
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PRIDE AND PREJUDICE



APR. 26 - MAY 5, 2024
JUDY BAYLEY THEATRE (JBT)

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM



EMILY WHATLEY (Scenic Designer) Emily is from the small town of Duke, Oklahoma. In 2020, she graduated with an undergraduate degree from Cameron University. Emily dabbles in properties design, scenic painting, and scenic design. This her 2nd year at UNLV, focusing on scenic design. She yearns to create art and experiences that hold no definition.

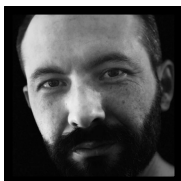


JD ANDERSON (Costume Designer) Joseph (J.D.) Anderson graduated from the University of Guam with a degree in Secondary Education and English as a Second Language. After years of a fulfilling career teaching 6th Grade Literature and working as a costume designer for local theatre on the island for fun, life events would lead him to decide to pursue a graduate degree in costume design. He is currently a first year M.F.A. Costume Design student at UNLV.

"Everything you've ever wanted is on the other side of fear." -George Addair



PAIGE BORAK (Lighting Designer) is a second year MFA student in the Lighting Design program at UNLV. She also designed *She Kills Monsters* for Nevada Conservatory Theatre. Recent credits include: *After Dark: An Immersive Circus*, *The Joffrey Ballet Summer Gala*, and *Lord of the Flies* with Rainbow Theatre Company. For more information or to contact, visit www.paigeborak.com.



DARREN SEGURA (Sound Designer) For 25 years I have been enthralled in the world of Audio and Sound Design. Starting out in high school and eventually ending up in one of the premier showrooms on the Las Vegas Strip, it is the only career I have ever known. From small local theatre productions to larger names such as Mike Tyson, Luke Combs and David Copperfield, I can't see my self ever doing anything else in my life.

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM



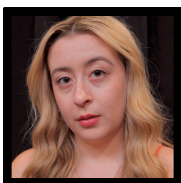
CAMERON COX (Props Coordinator) From Orem, Utah, Cameron is an MFA Stage Management student who previously received an MA in Media and Performance and BA in Theatre Arts Studies with emphases in dramaturgy, directing and stage management from Brigham Young University. Dramaturgy credits include *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Illusionary Tales*, *The 39 Steps* and *Escape from Planet Death*. Directing credits BYU's Microburst Theatre Festival, assistant directing BYU's *Much Ado About Nothing*. Stage management credits include the operas *The Magic Flute*, *A Dinner Engagement*, and *Bon Appetite* for The School of Music, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *Romeo y Julieta*, *Happysadness* for BYU Arts, Prothero for the Salt Lake Fringe Festival and various ballets for the Utah Metropolitan Ballet and he is looking forward to stage managing *Mud* next semester. In his free time Cameron enjoys baking, playing with his dogs, building legos and listening to Taylor Swift.



CECELIA FISHER (Scenic Charge) is a first year Scenic Design Graduate student. She recently graduated from Fresno State in Fresno, California with a BA in Theatre - Design/Tech. She worked over the summer as a Scenic Artist at The REV Theatre Co. in New York, and has recently designed *Men On Boats* at Fresno State's University Theatre and *Oliver!* and *CMT Fresno*.



BROOKE OTERI (Technical Director) is a 2nd year MFA candidate in the Technical Direction emphasis. She graduated with a BA in Theatre from Florida International University in 2022. Previous credits include: *The Laramie Project* (Arizona Repertory Theatre), *The Thanksgiving Play* (ART), *Head Over Heels* (ART), and *Our Dear Dead Drug Lord* (Zoetic Stage). This is her first show at UNLV and she is thrilled to be part of this creative team.



ANGELINA DEFILIPPIS (Production Stage Manager) is a theatre major in the Screen and Stage Acting program here at UNLV and is graduating this December. This will be her first time PSM'ing a show! Her recent Nevada Conservatory credits include: Rehearsal SM on *Happy Days*, Stage Manager for *Violet*, and Assistant Director on *She Kills Monsters*. Super grateful for her parents, Boomer, and Jeepers.



LINDSEY WIGAND (Advising Stage Manager) Howdy 'dere! Lindsey is originally from West Allis, WI, and graduated from Ripon College, Ripon, WI with a BA in Psychobiology and Theatre. She's currently a 2nd year Stage Management MFA Candidate at the University of Nevada- Las Vegas. Her recent credits include assistant stage manager at Northern Sky Theater for Cheeseheads! The Musical and the world premiere of *The Fish Whisperer*, production stage manager for *Turn of the Screw* (UNLV Opera & Nevada Conservatory Theatre), Stage Manager for *The Cherry Orchard* (Nevada Conservatory Theatre), and advising stage manager for *Matilda Jr.* (West Allis-West Milwaukee Theater). When she's not backstage you'll find her building the latest underwater Lego set, baking sweet treats, or thinking about her dog.



SAMANTHA M. THOMPSON (Tech Stage Manager) is a third year graduate student in the MFA Stage Management program. Her most recent credits include On-Call Assistant Stage Manager for Cirque du Soleil's *The Beatles' LOVE*, Production Coordinator for Spiegelworld's *Circus Town*, and On-Call Assistant Stage Manager for *America's Got Talent Presents Superstars Live!*. Originally from North Carolina, Samantha has a background in stage managing regional theatre productions, theme park entertainment, circus shows, and more. She holds a BFA in Technical Production from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, has completed the Graduate Teaching Certification program here at UNLV, and is currently a member of the Graduate Mentorship Certification cohort for the 2023-24 academic year.



HANNAH GOLDBERG (Assistant Technical Director) is in her senior year is currently pursuing a B.A. in Theatre Technology Production and Design. She has been employed in the NCT Scene Shop for three years as a carpenter, where she has worked on various shows from *Ring Around the Moon* to *Violet the Musical*. Additionally, she has served as an assistant Technical Director for *Crumbs from the Table of Joy* and Technical Directed *The Turn of the Screw*.



KORA HEMSTREET (Assistant Stage Manager) is an undergraduate design and tech major here at UNLV, she is a senior with a focus in stage management and will be graduating spring of 2024.



JIMENA AMADOR-VELASCO (Assistant Stage Manager) Born and raised in Las Vegas, Jimena Amador-Velasco is a senior in the Stage and Screen Acting program who is very happy to be working on another show with NCT. Playing the Old Lady in last season's production of *Violet*, assistant stage managing for *She Kills Monsters*, and working wardrobe for *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*, Jimena is excited to be back on board as an ASM for *American La Ronde*. She sends lots of love to her friends and family, and many thanks to all who made this show possible. You can catch her next as an ensemble member in NCT's *Cinderella Under the Mistletoe!*

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SEASON



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'AMERICAN LA RONDE' PRODUCTION STAFF

Dramaturg..... Stebos
Props Coordinator..... Cameron Cox+
Scenic Charge Artist..... Cecilia Fisher+
Master Electrician..... Jasmin Garcia+
Light Board Operator..... Jenna Pickren
Spotlight Operators..... Josiah Llapiton, Mary Alice
Electricians..... Jordan Hall+, Jasmin Garcia+, Paige Borak+, Jordyn
Cozart+, Aspen Aegert, Rhiannon Carter, Alexis Charbonneau, Matthew Hills, Aviana
Lawrence, Edward Nutley
Sound Board Operator..... Sinee Wongrattananon
Deck Crew..... Marcus Constantine, Josiah Llapiton
Props Crew..... Alison Begin, Laura Nieland
Wardrobe Crew..... Isabelle Conde, Alex Rector, Sophia Suarez-Dunbar

Outreach Coordinator, Know Before You Go..... Kate Critchfield
+ Member of the MFA Professional Training Program with the Nevada Conservatory Theatre.

NEVADA CONSERVATORY THEATRE STAFF

Executive Director..... Kirsten Brandt
Resident Dramaturg..... Stebos
Artists in Residence..... Phil Hubbard,
Kymberly Mellen, Sean Boyd, Norma Saldivar
Intimacy Coordinator..... Sean Boyd
Production Manager..... M. William Shiner
Scenic Designer Supervisor..... Dana Moran-Williams
Technical Direction Supervisor..... David Shouse
Carpenters..... Brooke Oteri+, Timothy
Simon+, Mitchel Statler+, Hannah Goldberg, Martin Hackett, Audrey Maue, Dakota
Barbee
Costume Design Supervisor..... Judy Ryerson
Costume Shop Supervisor..... Katrina Hertfelder
Costume Construction Crew..... Savie Moore+,
Leah Procita+, JD Anderson+, Zaria Lauren Bell, Robby Baker
Lighting Design Supervisor..... Brackley Frayer
Lighting & Sound Shop Supervisor..... Stuart Beck
Marketing and PR Assistant..... Jordan Hall+, Kate Critchfield+
Department Administrative Assistant..... Elaine Franks
Department Student Workers..... Amber Jane Altamira,
Kristofferson Balogot, Cesar Alcalá
Photographers..... Shahab Zargari

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UNLV PERFORMING ARTS CENTER STAFF

Executive Director..... Lori Cobi
Administrative Assistant.....Tinah Oh
Director of Marketing & Patron Services.....Shaun Franklin-Sewell
Communications Coordinator.....Shahab Zargari
Guest Relations Manager.....Joy Montano
Technical DirectionLynn Ware
Theatre Technician..... Dave Gruzin, Paulo Martins,
Keith Widmann, Aldair Callejas
House Manager.....Isabel Del Monte, Mika Go, Pamela Pitcher, DeAnn Weis
Assistant House Manager.....Stephen King, Rhiannon Waters

AMERICAN LA RONDE



SPECIAL THANKS

The Nevada Conservatory Theatre gratefully acknowledges the UNLV Film Department, Warren Cobb, Jason Edmiston, and Samuel Decker

College of Fine Arts & Department of Theatre Faculty

Nancy J. Usher, *Dean*

Timothy Jones, *Vice Dean*

Warren D. Cobb, *Associate Dean*

Jennifer Vaughn, *Communications Director*

Diane Zapach, *Director of Development*

-

Kirsten Brandt, *Chair*

Michael Lugering, *Associate Chair*

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Stuart Beck	Nat Bynum	Phil Hubbard	Norma Saldivar
Stefano Boselli	Jerry L. Crawford*	Dr. Jeffrey Koep*	M. William Shiner
Sean Boyd	Brackley Frayer	Kymberly Mellen	David Shouse
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NCT Guest Artists 2023-2024 Season

The Department of Theatre and the Nevada Conservatory Theatre welcomes guest artists to UNLV. We are dedicated to fulfilling our mission of providing opportunities for students to work alongside international, national, and regional guest artists to enrich the learning process of making theatre. We acknowledge them and extend our appreciation for their contribution to the training and theatre-making that you will experience through various presentations, performances, talkbacks, and lectures.

Laura James, *Director/Writer (Cinderella)*

Ashley Shairp, *scenic designer, (Cinderella)*

Everett Elton Bradman, *Sound Designer, (Cinderella)*

Daz Weller, *Actor, (Cinderella)*

Keaton Jones, *Actor, (American La Ronde)*

Valerie Rachelle, *director, (Pride and Prejudice)*

Taylor Hanes, *Actor, (American La Ronde) and (Pride and Prejudice)*

UNLV appreciates the leadership and support of our Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents

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NEVADA CONSERVATORY THEATRE 2022-2023 DONORS

The Nevada Conservatory Theatre is honored to acknowledge the following individuals, who have given gifts to the UNLV Department of Theatre since 2022. Please contact Diane Zapach, Director of Development, for questions or corrections at (702) 895-4292 or via email at diane.zapach@unlv.edu.

We lost two good friends and supporters of NCT and UNLV College of Fine Arts this year. Russ L. Frank supported NCT as well as the Fine Arts Dean's Leadership Circle funding our community arts fellows at Shannon West Homeless Youth Shelter. Theatre alumnus John Iacovelli '81 supported NCT, our Theatre Dept. and the Robert "Bob" Brewer Theatre Endowment. We will miss them and their kind and generous spirits.

Platinum Circle - \$5,000

Anonymous
Peggy Allesee
Allen and Eileen Anes
Don and Jeannie Cadette
Judith Menzel
Stephanie I. Vondrak

Gold Circle - \$1,000 to \$4,999

Diana Eden*
Roger and Quida Reid*
Nancy J. Uscher

Silver Circle - \$500 to \$999

Avnish Bhatnagar

Bronze Circle - \$100 to \$499

Ari and Erica Berman
Gregory A. Bruce
Tod M. Fitzpatrick
Sandy L. Dieterich-Hughes
John C. Iacovelli
David and Carol Keenan
Norman H. Kresge
Bernard and Gerda Malamud
Lisa F. Mandel
Russell and Margaret Matthias
Laura Rauenzahn*
Norma Saldivar
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Diane L. Zapach
Steven J. Zeller

**in kind donations*

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